Docket No. 826.1410/CJG

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 30 and 31.

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in this application. Claims 1-29 have been allowed, while claims 30 and 31 stand rejected. Applicant cancels claims 30 and 31. Applicant has also presented amendments to correct various minor errors in the specification.

Rejections to the Claims: 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mansell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,223,844) in view of Hikuma et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,426,690). Applicant cancels claims 30 and 31 above, rendering the rejection under §103(a) moot.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding rejections have been rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding rejections, the application is submitted to be in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 3/9/00

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